\*\*\*STUDENTS, PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT THIS PAPER WAS CREATED AS AN EXAMPLE OF A RESEARCH PAPER, NOT TO REPRESENT ANYONE’S ACTUAL OPINION. IT ACTUALLY TAKES A DIFFERENT VIEW THAN MOST PEOPLE HAVE SHARED SO AS TO DISCOURAGE COPYING IT.\*\*\*

Imagine that you and about 100 friends make a deal. Every year you put money into a pot, and throughout the year you use that money for things that you need, food, medicine, school supplies, etc. One day, you find out that some of your friends are not really putting money into the pot, but they are still using the money. And one of the “friends” is actually using the money to buy weapons to hurt the rest of you. How would you feel about this? This is similar to the issue of illegal immigration. Americans pay taxes every year for health care, education, police, etc. Since we do not know they are here, many illegal immigrants do not pay taxes. They still, however, receive tax money. A very small percentage of these immigrants can be terrorists who use these resources for bombs that hurt other Americans.

Currently, there are approximately 12 million immigrants in our country (Fox News, 4/1/06). Many of these immigrants are in southwest states that border Mexico, like Texas and Arizona. Illegal immigrants make up about just under 10% of Arizona’s population ([www.census.gov/arizonapop/imm.html](http://www.census.gov/arizonapop/imm.html)). If immigration rates continue, our nation of 274 million people will have half a billion people by the year 2050 (Huddle). Furthermore, the tax dollars to support many Americans who are sick and aging will not be there as they are used for the education and healthcare of illegal immigrants who do not pay taxes (Huddle). Even more scary, open borders that allow people do cross illegally also allow terrorists to enter our country and hurt Americans. It is believed that 15 of the 19 9/11 hi-jackers entered the country this way (Francis).

The United States government is already taking steps to prevent people from entering the country illegally. Virginia Congressman Virgil H. Goode, Jr. introduced a resolution in the House of Representatives in July of 2005 to address this problem. H.Con.Res.221 stated that the president should use every tool available to end illegal immigration, work with state police and border patrols, and require Mexico to stop helping people to cross the border illegally. It was referred to three committees and discussion began in September, but it died in committee at the end of the year.

The Senate has also taken steps to decrease illegal immigration. Texas Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson introduced S.1823 in October of 2005 to encourage the government to prosecute people who enter the country illegally. This bill was referred to the Judiciary Committee and died at the end of the year.

I propose passing a new law to double the number of people who patrol the border. People who want to work in the country will be allowed to enter, but it will be much harder for terrorists and people who want to sneak across the border without permission to make it.

This law would have opposition. First, some people believe that anyone should be able to enter the country. This puts lives in danger, however, because that means terrorists can enter the country, too. Secondly, some people are concerned about the cost of paying more people to guard the border. While this could be expensive, it is less expensive than having to pay for the healthcare and education of people who are here illegally. Finally, some people argue that this would not prevent all people who are trying to enter the country illegally. While this is true, it will reduce illegal immigration, which is better than doing nothing at all.

As can be seen, illegal immigration is a problem that causes our country millions of dollars and even threatens the security of our country. We need to prevent people from entering the country illegally. Increasing the number of people who patrol our border would help achieve this goal.